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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Zuniga et al.  
Serial No. : 10/826,185  
Filed : April 15, 2004  
Title : METHODS FOR A MULTILAYER RETAINING RING

Art Unit : 1763  
Examiner : Sylvia R. MacArthur

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Copies of the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 are enclosed.

This statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the Request for Continued Examination. No fee is believed to be due. If, however, there are any charges or credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9/28/04

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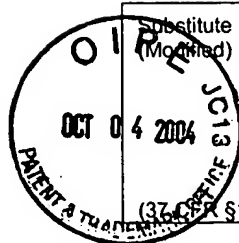
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Carlos A. Brasil  
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Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 05542-303003	Application No. 10/826,185
<b>Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant</b> (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR 1.98(b))		Applicant Zuniga et al.	
		Filing Date April 15, 2004	Group Art Unit 1763

### U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	5,597,346	01/28/1997	Hempel Jr.			
	AB	5,695,392	12/09/1997	Kim			
	AC	5,931,725	08/03/1999	Inaba et al.			
	AD	6,277,008	08/21/2001	Masuta et al.			
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

### Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL	11-291162	10/1999	Japan			English Abstract	
	AM	06-039705	02/1994	Japan			English Abstract	
	AN	10-058309	03/1998	Japan			English Abstract	
	AO	08-264627	10/1996	Japan			English Abstract	
	AP	10-034530	02/1998	Japan			English Abstract	
	AQ	10-094959	04/1998	Japan			English Abstract	

### Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AR	Notice of Reasons for Revocation, Dispatched August 27, 2004, Japanese Opposition No. 2003-72977.
	AS	
	AT	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	